MAKEMONEYAS / ALTERNATIVES GUIDE

5 Alternatives to the Cricut Engraving Tip Plus QuickSwap Housing (Including Budget-Friendly Picks)

Looking for Cricut Engraving Tip alternatives? Compare 5 cheaper Cricut options for heat pressing, sublimation, storage and more.

£34.79 ~~RRP £48.99~~ **Save £14.20 (29%)**

★★★★☆ **4.7**/5 (9838 reviews)

Lowest Price

Products Featured in This Guide

Cricut 2006978 Engraving Tip Plus QuickSwap Housing, Multicolour, Blade

£34.79 4.7★

REALIKE Heat Press Mat for Easy Press Heat-Resistant Protective Mat for Cricut M...

£13.99 4.7★

A-SUB Sublimation Paper A4, 210x297mm, 100 Sheets, 125gsm, Compatible with EPSON...

£13.99 4.8★

Cricut EasyPress Mat, 30.5 cm x 30.5 cm (12" x 12"), Grey, 30.5cm x 30.5cm

£26.99 4.8★

Carrying Case for Cricut Maker, Double-Layer Cricut Bag with Cover and Cutting M...

£32.69 4.7★

Cricut Blank Mugs | White | 425ml (15oz) | 6 x Infusible Ink Sublimation Mugs | ...

£22.14 4.8★

Before diving in, it's worth saying that none of these products is a direct one-for-one replacement for the Cricut Engraving Tip Plus QuickSwap Housing. The original is a specialty accessory for engraving, while the alternatives below are more about helping you expand, support, or streamline your Cricut projects in practical ways. That means the right pick depends on whether you want to create more types of projects, improve your crafting setup, or simply spend less.

1) Cricut Blank Mugs | White | 425ml (15oz) | 6 x Infusible Ink Sublimation Mugs — £22.14 This is £12.65 cheaper than the engraving tip, and it's the most project-focused alternative on the list. Instead of adding an engraving capability, it gives you six blank mugs ready for Infusible Ink or mug press work. That's a big practical difference: the original product expands what your machine can physically do, while this alternative helps you turn a Cricut setup into sellable or giftable finished items.

In terms of features, the mugs are designed for sublimation-style personalization, so they're ideal if you want to make custom drinkware rather than engraved items. The 4.8★ rating is slightly higher than the main product's 4.7★, which suggests buyers are very happy with the finish and consistency. Build quality matters here because mug coating quality affects how sharp and vibrant your transfers look. Compared with the engraving tip, the mugs are obviously a different category, but they're a better value if your goal is to make products you can actually use, gift, or sell.

Verdict: choose this if you want a lower-cost way to make personalized Cricut projects that have immediate real-world use. Skip it if you specifically need engraving.

2) Cricut EasyPress Mat, 30.5 cm x 30.5 cm — £26.99 This is £7.80 cheaper than the engraving tip, and it's one of the most sensible add-ons if you already do heat-transfer projects. The EasyPress Mat doesn't create designs by itself, but it makes pressing safer and more consistent by providing a heat-resistant, protective surface. That means less heat loss, fewer scorch risks, and better results on HTV and iron-on projects.

Feature-wise, this is all about support rather than creation. If you're working with shirts, tote bags, or other fabric projects, the mat can improve results more than many beginners expect. The 4.8★ rating is strong, and Cricut's own accessory tends to feel more premium and reliable than generic mats. The build quality advantage is mostly about heat management and durability; a better mat can last through repeated use without flattening or warping as quickly.

Verdict: choose this if you already own a Cricut and want to improve your heat-press workflow. It’s not a replacement for engraving, but it’s a smart buy for crafters who make wearable or fabric-based items.

3) A-SUB Sublimation Paper A4, 100 Sheets, 125gsm — £13.99 At £20.80 cheaper than the original, this is the best budget option on the list by a wide margin. The trade-off is obvious: you’re not buying a tool or accessory for the Cricut itself, but consumable paper for sublimation printing. If you’re trying to get into custom products without spending much upfront, this is a low-risk way to start.

The key feature difference is that this paper works with compatible sublimation printers, not engraving tools. That means its practical impact is strongest for people making mugs, shirts, and other transfer-based products. The 4.8★ rating is impressive for a consumable, and quality matters a lot here because ink release and drying speed affect print sharpness and transfer performance. Compared with the original Cricut accessory, this is much less specialized, but it offers a lower-cost route into a profitable craft workflow.

Verdict: choose this if you want to experiment with sublimation or reduce material costs. It’s a better value for makers who care more about finished products than machine accessories.

4) REALIKE Heat Press Mat for Easy Press, 30.5cm x 30.5cm — £13.99 This is also £20.80 cheaper than the engraving tip, and it’s one of the best-value alternatives if you need heat-press support without paying Cricut-brand pricing. Like the EasyPress Mat, it’s designed to protect your work surface and improve heat-transfer results. The practical impact is simple: better insulation, fewer heat issues, and a more stable pressing setup.

Feature-wise, the REALIKE mat is a direct competitor to Cricut’s mat rather than a replacement for engraving. The 4.7★ rating is still excellent, and that’s important because third-party mats can vary in thickness and heat resistance. Build quality is where the main trade-off sits: Cricut’s version may feel a bit more refined, but REALIKE gives you a strong balance of performance and price. For many buyers, the savings are worth it because the mat’s job is functional rather than decorative.

Verdict: choose this if you want the cheapest practical upgrade for heat-transfer crafting. It’s ideal for budget-conscious makers who still want dependable performance.

5) Carrying Case for Cricut Maker, Double-Layer Cricut Bag — £32.69 This one is only £2.10 cheaper than the original, so it’s not a huge money-saver, but it solves a different problem: storage and portability. If you’re buying the engraving tip because you’re building out your Cricut setup, a good carrying case may actually be the more useful purchase right now. It helps protect your machine, keeps mats organized, and makes it easier to move your crafting gear safely.

The feature difference is substantial. The engraving tip upgrades what the machine can do; the carrying case improves how you store and transport it. In terms of build quality, this kind of product matters because zips, padding, stitching, and pocket design determine whether your machine stays protected. With a 4.7★ rating, it’s well regarded, and the double-layer design suggests better

organization than a basic bag. The downside is that it doesn't add creative capability, so it's only worth it if your current pain point is storage or portability.

Verdict: choose this if you already have the tools you need and want to protect your investment. It's a practical alternative for organized crafters, not a creative upgrade.

Overall, the best alternative depends on your goal. If you want to make products, the Cricut Blank Mugs and A-SUB Sublimation Paper are the strongest value picks. If you want to improve your setup, the Cricut EasyPress Mat or REALIKE Heat Press Mat are smarter buys. And if you're focused on keeping your equipment safe and portable, the Cricut carrying case makes the most sense.

The biggest takeaway is that the original Cricut engraving tip is a specialist accessory, so alternatives only make sense if they solve a different problem more cheaply or more effectively. If that's the case, these options can offer better value than paying full price for a tool you may not use often.

Still Buy the Original If...

Buy the original if you specifically want engraving capability and already own a compatible Cricut machine. It's the right choice when you need a precision accessory that directly expands what your cutter can do.

Read the full review with live prices and price history at allthetoppicks.com

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Prices and availability may have changed since publication. Always check the latest prices before purchasing.